

Dog Bite Prevention

Maricopa County Animal Care and Control

Dogs are a wonderful addition to a family. They are a happy face to greet us after a long day and givers of unconditional love. They could also be biters. All dogs have the potential to be biters. In 2006, 5,000 dog bites were reported in Maricopa County. We need to work together with our dogs and families to lower that number. It is up to you to lessen the chance of your dog biting by learning what to do and what not to do with your dog.



Be a Responsible Pet Owner

- Spay/neuter your dog
- Train your dog using positive training methods
- Take your dog to obedience classes
- Teach your dog not to jump up
- Train your dog to walk on a leash without pulling
- Give you dogs lots of exercise
- Socialize your dog in the world
- Do not encourage aggressive behavior
- Give your dog a special place

Teach Your Children How to Interact With Dogs



- Do not hug or kiss a dog's face
- Do not wake a sleeping dog
- Do not wrestle or chase, play fetch games or hide n' seek
- Use caution around leashed dogs
- Do not pull on ears, tails or fur
- Do not harass an eating dog
- Ask a dog's owner permission to pet
- Be calm around dogs

Dogs bite for a variety of reasons. They bite because they are scared. Dogs bite because they are protecting their young, their territory or their owners. They bite because they are hurt or because they have been startled. Dogs bite because they want to be left alone.

Remember why dogs may bite, and train your family and your dog to act in the best possible way. By being a responsible pet owner, you will help keep your family and your dog safe.

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Serving neighborhoods, families and pets one by one

